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VIRGINIA GAZETTE

OPEN TO ALL PARTIES,

BUT INFLUENCED BY NONE.

WILLIAMSBURG, PRINTED BY

CLEMENTINA RIND.

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The BRITISH AMERICAN. NUMBER IX.

FRIENDS, FELLOW CITIZENS, and COUNTRYMEN.

I HAVE observed, that in disputes between men, where each hath been furnished with the office of lawyer, they have generally compromised their differences upon honourable terms; but where the person injured, under pretence of trying moderate measures, hath by his method of sowing sedition, given his adversary reason to suspect his courage, a scandalous submission, or the duel he wished to avoid, has been the consequence. The same passions which produce this effect between two men will operate equally upon two states, who are but a collection of individuals. It is my firm opinion, that if the British aristocracy were once convinced that you were determined to risk your lives and fortunes rather than submit to the legislation of a British parliament, they would relinquish so despotic a measure rather than force you to draw the sword, if you convince them that you are determined to go even those lengths rather than submit; and nothing but a persuasion that you dare not do so hath induced them to proceed so far as they have done. But supposing it was otherwise, it is high time that the dispute between Britain and America should be brought to some fixed point, which being once determined, either one way or other, may remove all future contest; for if you look no further than the present moment, and only endeavour to obtain a repeal of any particular act of parliament you complain of, you will no sooner battle oppression in one shape than, Proteus like, it will attack you in another equally formidable. Jealousies, complaints, murmurs, and dissensions, will eternally subsist, reciprocal provocations will totally destroy all harmony between the inhabitants of the two countries, and implacable resentment end in mutual attempts to ruin, if not to extirpate, each other. What then, my countrymen, is it you demand? The answer is obvious: A right of exemption from the legislation of the British parliament. If you are determined to enforce this right lay the axe to the root of the evil, boldly avow those intentions to the world, and pursue the proper measures, to transmit that right to your posterity. Of the three plans proposed, the first appears too weak and timid, the second too violent, rash, and dishonourable, to be adopted; then consider coolly the third plan proposed: That you shall absolutely determine at once that you will not in future suffer any act of the British parliament, made since the 4th of James the first, to be executed in the colonies; that if any judge of any court whatsoever shall presume to pronounce any judgment to enforce such act of parliament he shall incur the resentment of an injured people, and be treated as an enemy to America; that the judgment so pronounced by him shall be absolutely void; and that you will, at the risk of your lives and fortunes, support every person injured by such judgments, in repelling the execution of them by force. It is objected, that this measure strikes at the navigation act, which we have long submitted to. The very objection evinces the folly of trading the demands this dispute to posterity, who, familiarized to oppression, will never quit it, and who, by long use, will be accustomed to look upon every badge of slavery with as little horror as we do upon the navigation act, which ought certainly to be considered as impositions of the strong upon the weak, and as such ought to be resisted as much as any of the other acts we complain of; nor will this dispute ever be ended till by refusing submission to them we remove so dangerous a precedent. But it is said to be reasonable that your trade should be secured to Great Britain: I own I cannot see the force of this argument; for why should not Britons on this have as good a right to extend their trade to every corner of the globe as those on the other side of the Atlantic? Is it material to the empire of Great Britain in what part of her dominions the wealth of her subjects lies, since it will finally center in her happy island? Bristol, Liverpool, and Whitehaven, would esteem it an intolerable hardship to be obliged to lose or unlade all their ships at the port of London, and though they are not obliged to do this, their wealth finally centers in that city, as the metropolis of the kingdom; so if America was indulged in an unlimited trade it would be highly advantageous to Britain, as all the profits of such a trade must finally center in that island. It hath been justly observed, "that natural inclination leads every man to the cultivation of the soil, and the extensive continent of America will enable her inhabitants to indulge that inclination for centuries to come; nothing but oppression can ever induce them to turn their thoughts towards manufactures, whilst the produce of their fields can supply them with those manufactures." Long customs, added to their natural connections with their mother country, will lead them to prefer those of Britain to any others, and the certain market they would meet with there, together with the danger they will run, in trading with a foreign power, who in case of a war may cancel all the debts due to them, will induce them to supply Britain with all the rough materials she can manufacture, and to trade with other nations for such only as would be superfluous to her. But it is objected, that America would supply foreign powers with tobacco, and Britain would lose that valuable branch of trade: To this I answer, that her own interest would induce America first to supply Britain with as much of that commodity as she wanted for home consumption; because so much would bring a better price from thence than from any other market. The revenue of Britain would not therefore be affected, and with regard to the superfluity, Great Britain could never be said to lose those profits which any of her subjects gained; because the wealth would finally center in the capital of the empire. The happy temperance of her climate would invite the indolent, the residence of her monarch would draw the ambitious, the grandeur of her metropolis would attract the vain and curious, and the refinements of her pleasures would induce the luxurious of her extensive empire to spend all their superfluous wealth in a city where they could indulge every wish of their hearts. Not to mention the vast superiority Great Britain would have over the colonies, by all the officers of government in them being appointed, the government directed, and even the legislature controlled (in the exercise of the king's negative) by British councils. But it is objected, that if America was indulged with this extension of trade, still she would not contribute to the support of government, unless compelled to it by a British parliament. Either this objection is true, or false; suppose it true. If all the wealth arising from the trade and labours of the Americans finally centers in Britain, it is as immaterial to the state whether America actually pays the taxes herself, or enables others to do it, as if it was whether the publican or tallow chandler pay their taxes to the exchequer, who pays them into the exchequer, or whether they pay them to the exchequer themselves. But I deny the objection to be true. The assemblies of the colonies of America, when proper requisitions have been made of them as a free people, who had a right to exercise their judgment upon the expediency of the requisitions, have never refused to contribute to the utmost of their power towards supporting the dignity of the British empire; nor can the British aristocracy produce a single instance of any one colony's having refused to grant supplies when their sovereign hath requested them, but such where their governors, instead of requesting those supplies with a respect due to a free people, have insolently demanded them, with threats, in case of refusal; or when, in the proprietary colonies, their proprietors have refused to pass any supply bill, by which his large estate in the province would be obliged to contribute any thing towards warding off the common danger, and then, by the address of his governor, administration hath been abused with a belief of disloyalty in the people to their sovereign occasioned the want of the supplies, which were really withheld by the avarice of the proprietors. In the last war, when the usual requisitions were made, the colonies, fond of demonstrating their loyalty to their sovereign, and in regard for the dignity of the British empire, exerted themselves so

much beyond their ability, that the parliament of Great Britain thought it but just to repay them what they had actually contributed more than their proportion. Have they ever since been asked to contribute, and refused? Why then distrust them, and why run the risk of destroying the goods to get at the wealth which is in the service of their sovereign, whenever he asks for it in the usual way? But it is objected, that the last war was undertaken solely on account of America, and therefore she was more materially interested in its success than any of the inhabitants of Britain. The event has proved the very reverse. Each colony, possessed of more lands than their inhabitants could cultivate, were really prejudiced by Great Britain's extending her dominions in America. Their lands fell immediately 50 per cent. in their value by the emigration of their inhabitants to the new conquered colonies, the manufactures from Britain came much higher than formerly, by the great demand for them to supply their new acquired subjects, their exports to Britain were reduced in their price, on account of the additional ones from the new dominions, and, to crown all, the British aristocracy, having no longer a foreign rival to fear in America to check their aspiring views, employed their victorious arms to destroy the rights of those subjects who had assisted them in obtaining the victories which now enable them to attempt to enslave you, with even a shadow of success. But if custom hath so far habituated you to these unjust laws that you are willing, for the sake of peace, to meet your mother country more than half way, upon her agreeing to repeal those acts, together with every precedent of legislation, do you, on your parts, agree to secure the trade of the colonies to Great Britain, by re-enacting the laws of navigation, in your own respective assemblies, which when they have obtained the royal assent, will be eternally binding on you? But never consent to submit to these laws, as the acts of a British parliament. It is objected, that the third plan proposed is too violent and illegal to be adopted: Let us consider whether it is so; and here permit me to make a few distinctions, which are supported by those laws of England, which our ancestors, when they, with the leave of their sovereign, settled America, imported with them.

When a judge pronounces an erroneous judgment, in a cause properly within his jurisdiction, he is not answerable as a criminal for such an error in judgment, because no man is infallible, and corruption is not to be presumed. The judgment so pronounced by him, though erroneous, is not absolutely void, but available, and till it is regularly reversed by a superior court of judicature, it is to be considered as a judgment, may as such be enforced, and cannot be legally resisted.

If a judge pronounces judgment in a cause in which he has no jurisdiction, or if a man constitutes himself a judge, or is by others, who have no right to do so, illegally constituted a judge, and as such presumes to enforce such usurped jurisdiction, even though he judges it to be just, he is answerable for the consequences. The judgment thus pronounced by him, though a just one, is absolutely void, and as such may be legally resisted; the judge, and every person concerned in enforcing such a judgment, are trespassers, and if any person should in pursuance of such judgment, the judge who pronounced the sentence, the person who executed it, and all his assistants, are answerable for the same.

The courts of admiralty, at the time our ancestors settled America, had no jurisdiction of any offence committed in any river or bay where the land could be seen across from one side to the other; and if they presumed to usurp such jurisdiction, by seizing any vessel in such places, they, and all acting under them, were trespassers, their judgments were absolutely void, and, by the statute of a Henry 4th, chap. 11, they were liable for double damages.

The king cannot create any new offence which was not in the common law, or alter the mode of trial of those already created in Britain, without the consent of his British parliament, or, in other words, without the consent of the representatives of the people, who are to be judged for such offences, and affected by such trials; and if he should, such trials would be illegal, the judgments absolutely void, the persons injured by them may not only maintain an action against, and indict as trespassers, the persons who attempt to enforce such illegal and void judgments, but may resist them by force, and if in such resistance they kill the trespassers, it will not be murder, because, say the books, the persons slain were trespassers, exercising their violence with a show of justice; he who kills them is indulged by the law, and those who engage in such unlawful actions must abide by the event, at their peril.

For authorities in support of the doctrine I have thus laid down, I refer my reader to 1 Co. Rep. 76 and 77. 1 Salk. 201. 2 Mod. 30, 196. Rolles. Abr. Tit. Ekeage, Sec. pl. 45. Cro. James, 314. Cro. Car. 395. 2 Sid. 125. 1 Lev. 95. Hob. 267. Holt Rep. 186. 1 Hawk. pl. cr. chap. 28, sect. 5 and 6, chap. 29, sect. 8, chap. 31, sect. 46, chap. 32, sect. 54. 57. 58. 59. and 60. 2 Hawk. Pl. Cr. chap. 50, sect. 3. 4 Inst. 87, 97, 98, 121, 134, to 142, 213, and 248; and a great multitude of precedents in those books referred to. From these doctrines and authorities I draw the following inferences.

First, that the jurisdiction exercised by the courts of admiralty in the bays and rivers in America being given, the very offences of which they take cognizance being created, and the modes of trial being altered from the common law, since the settlement of the colonies by the British parliament, in which the inhabitants of the colonies are not represented, the judgments given by those courts are absolutely void, that the persons injured by them have a right to recover double damages of, and to indict the persons who enforce them, and to resist them with force, and if in such resistance the trespassers are killed, it will not be murder; but, on the other hand, if the persons resisting are killed, all actually present in countenancing and enforcing such judgments will be guilty of murder.

Secondly, that as acts of the British parliament, made since the settlement of America (in which the inhabitants of America neither are or can be represented) cannot be binding upon the Americans, who had no share in framing them, the subject matter of such act of parliament can never come within the jurisdiction of any court of judicature in America, and consequently any judgment given by an American court of judicature, to enforce such acts of parliament, are absolutely void, and may be legally resisted.

Thus, my countrymen, the dispute finally terminates in this single question: Whether the British parliament, in which you are not represented, have a right to make laws to bind you, or not? If they have, all opposition is illegal; but if they have not, you may, without infringing the laws of your country, declare that you will not submit to any act of parliament made since your ancestors, with the leave of their sovereign, settled in America, and determine to punish any judge who shall dare to enforce such; for the man who as a judge usurps a jurisdiction he has no right to, and under colour of a law, no way obligatory on you, attempts to wrest your property from you, is to be considered as a plunderer and robber, and you have as good a right to repel by force the execution of his judgments, as you have to resist the highwayman who attacks you in the main road, the thief who breaks into your house, the halloo who, by virtue of an execution against your estate, attempts to imprison your person, or the Gascon who would enforce an edict of the French parliament. A just apprehension of personal danger, and the dread of immediate punishment, acts so powerfully upon the human mind, that I can readily imagine a regard for their personal safety would induce, and a dread of danger would intimidate, all the judges in the colonies from enforcing acts of parliament, of which they can have no legal jurisdiction. Thus your very resolutions would, in many of the colonies, end the dispute; for acts of parliament, which no judge would dare to enforce obedience to, could never injure you. But if, contrary to expectation, the judges should still presume to proceed, I would not advise you to confine yourselves to resolutions only, or even to a bare resistance of the execution of their judgments, but by pursuing active measures, convince them you are in earnest, and make examples of the offending judges. Be not alarmed, my countrymen, it is not my inten-

tion to advise you to proceed to extremities, and hang up these judges at once; for if the laws of your country can be duly enforced, the authorities I have cited prove that private actions, brought by the parties injured, the presentment of grand juries, and the verdicts of petit juries, will be amply sufficient to enable you to punish legally any judge, who, by arrogating to himself an illegal jurisdiction, shall presume to invade himself, or inflame others to invade, the property, restrain the liberty, or destroy the lives, of his fellow subjects. It is objected, that administration will exert its influence over all your courts of justice, to stifle such suits and prosecutions, or, at least, to prevent them from being carried into execution: To this I answer, that when violent and unconstitutional measures are taken, to overturn the laws of, or to impede, the course of justice in any country, the first law of nature gives the people a right of preserving the one, and of enforcing the other; therefore, if your natural and political liberty should be thus trampled on, and your property should be thus illegally invaded, you will be strictly justifiable in recurring to force, and in proceeding to the last extreme; and to sacrifice to your just resentment three or four, or even three or four dozen, unconstitutional or corrupt judges in each colony, will be a more moderate measure than that of entering into associations to starve 50,000 of your innocent manufacturing fellow subjects in Britain, or that of breaking off all connections with the mother country, and by that means reducing yourselves to the necessity of slaughtering some thousands of the British foldiers, or of exposing the lives of all America in a bad cause; for such it would be esteemed if you set dishonourably in withholding their debts from your creditors. Upon the whole, my advice to you, my countrymen, is, that you send deputies from every colony in America to form a general congress. Let them be instructed to enter into the firmest resolutions of not submitting to any acts of the British parliament, made since the 4th of James the first (when your ancestors, with the leave of their sovereign, made the first effectual settlement in America, and by doing so, could no longer be subject to the legislation of a British parliament, in which they could not be represented) and of punishing any person who shall presume, for the future, to enforce such acts of parliament in America. Let them draw up, and transmit to England, an address to your gracious sovereign, expressive of the most affectionate loyalty to his person, of their readiness to grant him supplies for the benefit of the whole empire, to the utmost of their abilities, whenever he shall request it of his respective American assemblies; but assuring him of their determined resolution to sacrifice their lives, and every thing that is valuable to them, rather than submit to the legislation of a British parliament; and that as no evil can be so dreadful as to them, as a humiliating subjection to their fellow subjects the lords and commons of England, that if his majesty, deaf to their just complaints, should persist in permitting such acts of parliament to be enforced in America, his subjects of that great continent, though they with horror at the idea of disloyalty to his sacred person, are, nevertheless, firmly determined to break off all connections with Great Britain, and to trust to that God who hath told them that the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, to support their endeavours in preserving that liberty they received from their British ancestors. It is objected, that though this plan may be of service to the other colonies, it will administer no relief to the town of Boston, who is now suffering in the common cause: To this I answer, that a particular emergency requires a special remedy. So far as relates to the removal of the seat of government, I think resistance would be illegal, it being the undoubted prerogative of the crown to fix, or to remove, the seat of government of any particular colony, to whatever place the king pleases within that colony; and though this prerogative may be exercised oppressively, still the subject must submit. He may petition, but majesty only can redress the grievance.

But the stopping up the port of Boston, and prohibiting the owners from using their own wharfs, under colour of acts of parliament, which the inhabitants, or their representatives, had no share in framing, is such an illegal stretch of power, such a despotic invasion of property, that may be legally resisted, and ought not to be submitted to; indeed, I look upon it as little less than a declaration of war, which would justify all America in running immediately to arms, to repel so hostile an attack upon their liberties. But still, my countrymen, I would wish to see you adopt constitutional measures of redress. Let subscriptions be opened in every town and county on the continent of America, to supply the inhabitants of the town of Boston liberally with every necessary. Let every supply of fresh provisions and other necessities be withheld from the navy and army employed in the detestable service of endeavouring to enslave their brethren and fellow subjects. Let every colony in particular, and all America in general congress, protest against the illegality of the measures, and resolve to support every person who shall infringe or oppose it. Let vessels attempt to go in and out of the port of Boston as usual, as if no such act of parliament existed. If the ships of war should seize them, or the foldiers obstruct any man in the use of his wharf, prosecute in the courts of law every officer, either of the army or navy, for acting so illegally, and every judge who shall presume to condemn the vessels seized; let the expense of such prosecutions be defrayed, and the losses of private men made good, by the general contributions of all America. If any violent measures are taken by the tools of the British aristocracy, to impede the course of justice, recur to the first law of nature, and repel the aggressor; and though the inhabitants of New England are sufficiently numerous to repel any illegal force which can be raised upon such an occasion, yet in order to make it one general act of all America, let each colony send a quota of men to perform this service, and let the respective quotas be settled in the general congress.

These measures will, in my opinion, be the most moderate, the most constitutional, and the most effectual, you can pursue, and will, I doubt not, add such weight to your address to the throne, that the British aristocracy, convinced that you are in earnest, will listen to reasonable terms of accommodation, and you, by preserving your own liberty, be such a constant check to their ambitious designs, as will restrain them within the bounds of moderation, even in Britain; and by restoring your sovereign to his necessary weight in the national councils, prevent Great Britain from becoming a prey to those aristocratical vultures, which are endeavouring to destroy her very vitals. But if debased by corruption, prostituted by venality, and lured to all sorts of shame, Britain, like a contented, fond wanton, loves and caresses the ravishers who have debauched and undone her, should attempt to sacrifice her American offspring to their ambition, and, regardless of your complaints, determine to enforce the legislation of a British parliament in America, or, in other words, if all your efforts are ineffectual to save your mother country, and the most sink, you must then take care not to sink with her; but by preserving your own liberty, prepare an asylum in America for such of the inhabitants of Britain who still desire or deserve to be free. You must then, and not till then, break off all connections with Great Britain; you must stop your imports and exports to and from thence; you must banish every customhouse officer from amongst you; you must invite all other nations of the world to supply you with necessities by giving them liberty to trade with you, duty free; you must proclaim universal freedom throughout America; you must draw your swords in a just cause,

I would advise that Frederick town in Maryland, or Winchester in Virginia, should be fixed upon as proper for the meeting of this congress, as no ships of war could bombard either of those towns, and the number of expert rifle-men in those parts would be able to prevent any unwelcome visitors from interrupting the congress; and though it is to be hoped that no such thing will be attempted, a discreet caution will do no harm.

and rely upon that God, who afflicts the righteous, to support your endeavours, to preserve that liberty he gave, and the love of which he hath implanted in your hearts, as essential to your nature. But these are measures which the British aristocracy, when they reflect upon those consequences of a war with the colonies which I enlarged upon in a former letter, will never force you into. They are measures which nothing but necessity can justify; measures too delicate to be enlarged upon, and measures which I touch with a trembling hand, because though they will, they must, effectually preserve the liberty of America, they will probably occasion the destruction of Britain, and though she hath treated us ungratefully, and I will add, ungratefully, she is our mother country still, and as such I would wish to preserve her.

And now, my friends, fellow citizens, and countrymen, to convince you that I am in earnest in the advice I have given you, notwithstanding the personal danger I expose myself to in so doing, notwithstanding the threats thrown out by the British aristocracy of punishing in England those who shall dare to oppose them in America, yet because I do not wish to survive the liberty of my country one single moment, because I am determined to risk my all in supporting that liberty, and because I think it in some measure dishonourable to skulk under a borrowed name, upon such an occasion as this, I am neither afraid, or ashamed, to avow, that the letters signed by A BRITISH AMERICAN, were written by the hand, and flowed from the heart, of

THOMSON MASON.

As the letter here alluded to was published many years ago, like this, in a newspaper, and, in all human probability, hath been long consigned to oblivion, it may not be amiss to give the following extract from it: "If Great Britain should ever determine to enslave America, it is more than probable that she would have more difficulties to encounter than she at present apprehends. Suppose the Americans, alarmed at the approaching danger, should discreetly determine to retreat to a considerable distance from navigation, and carry off their provisions and live stock of every kind with them, would troops, who had been confined to a close ship, upon salt provisions, for near three months, without fresh provisions, without horses to draw their artillery, be in a very proper condition to pursue them? If they did, would not the scarcity, the unwholeness of the climate, and the many disorders incident to America, which attack the Europeans with double force upon their first arrival, render the success of such an expedition impracticable, and enable the Americans to preserve their liberty, without imbruing their hands in blood? Is it reasonable to suppose that three millions of British subjects would tamely submit to slavery, without striking a single blow? Would not their knowledge of the country enable them to attack with advantage? Would not the consideration that they were fighting *pro aris et fide* add enthusiasm to their courage? Inured to the climate, and well supplied with provisions, would they not be better able to undergo the fatigue of such a war than their invaders? If the British troops, with all the assistance and supplies of necessary refreshments, which they received from their American friends last war, thought an American campaign the severest they had ever experienced, what must such a campaign be without such assistance and supplies? Could Great Britain spare even 50,000 men, to reduce a people actuated with sentiments of liberty, and possessed of British freedom, of twenty times their number, would those troops engage with alacrity in such a cause? Would not some murmurs of humanity whisper to their consciences that they were butchering their fellow subjects for shewing themselves worthy of the race from whence they sprung, and for seeking the same laudable path which they themselves would do under a like oppression? When the sluices of her trade were stopped, and all communication with her colonies broke off, could she long support the expense of such an armament? Is she well assured that the other powers of Europe would stand idle, and calmly see her trampling upon the rights of mankind? Would not the generous desire of preventing so execrable a purpose furnish them with a just pretext for interfering in support of the injured rights of the colonies? And might not Britain, whilst she was endeavouring to enforce slavery with fire and sword in America, fall an easy prey to the first invader, and thus involve herself in the ruin she designed for others? But suppose Britain was able to crush America with the smallest exertion of her force, and to exterminate its present inhabitants without losing the life of a single man sent against it, would such a conquest redound either to her honour or advantage? Would not the life of every American, spent upon such an occasion, be really a loss to Britain, by lessening the export of her manufactures, and the import of rough materials, which furnish her with the means of extending her trade to all corners of the globe? What mighty advantage would the reap from an uncalculated desert? Would it be easy for her to persuade her other subjects to supply the place of the slaughtered with such an example of cruelty, and ingratitude, of their mother country, before their eyes? Does she think that the extermination of liberty would be a spur to industry, or that slavery hath such charms as to contribute to the increase of the colonies? Should the northern endeavour to deprive the western counties of England of their rights, and a civil war ensue, would the conflict be advantageous even to the conquerors? These are considerations which must and will have weight with the British parliament, and restrain them from entering into a war with the colonies."

M. S. RIND,

By inserting the following in your useful gazette you will render a singular service to your country, and at the same time oblige the greater part of this county, which you need not in the least hesitate to do, as it contains nothing but truth and real facts, which, if denied, will be fully proved, by numbers now living in this county, as well as by your humble servant,

Princetown, July 13, 1774.

WHEREAS an invariable mode of partiality and arbitrary administration has been frequently planned and executed by our present county lieutenant, to the prejudice and displeasure of this county, and to the almost general discontent, confusion, and destruction, of our militia, which was once remarkable for its order, regularity, and good discipline, but is now reduced to a state of anarchy, being without leaders, without commanders, that are capable of disciplining them; therefore, as these are facts undeniable, and most of them recent, which plainly prove the mischievous tendency, and dangerous consequences, which proceed from the absolute power given by government to the lieutenant of every county to appoint all the officers for his county at his own will and pleasure, which power, though seldom or never was so much abused before, yet may be productive of many precedents hereafter, if not timely prevented (more especially at this critical and dangerous era) which can no otherwise be done than by the legislature taking that tempting power and authority away from the county lieutenant, and placing them in the courts martial respectively, or the major part of them present, with the same reason that magistrates and vestrymen are to be chosen by a majority. By such an amendment in the militia law the companies in general will be commanded by the best officers, as it is most probable that the commissions (particularly the higher ones) will be properly disposed of to those able and experienced officers who have the best right to succeed, both from seniority and qualification, and will not be arbitrarily and partially given away from such, through favour or selfish views, to raw, inexperienced upstarts, who seldom or never served in the militia, and know not how to draw up a single company, nor how to exercise them when drawn up by an experienced officer; nor will the men cheerfully or willingly serve under such whom they know to be ignorant, unworthy, and unfit to command; which are the real cases in this county at present.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF VIRGINIA.

At a meeting of the freeholders of Hanover county, at the courthouse, on Wednesday the 20th of July, 1774, the following ADDRESS was agreed to.

To JOHN SYME and PATRICK HENRY, junior, esquires.

GENTLEMEN, YOU have our thanks for your patriotic, faithful, and spirited conduct, in the part you acted in the late assembly, as our burgesses, and as we are greatly alarmed at the proceedings of the British parliament, respecting the town of Boston, and the province of Massachusetts Bay, and as we understand a meeting of delegates from all the counties in this colony is appointed to be in Williamsburg on the first day of next month, to deliberate on our public affairs, we do hereby appoint you, gentlemen, our delegates, and we do request you then and there to meet, consult, and advise, touching such matters as are most likely to effect our deliverance from the evils with which our country is threatened.

The importance of those things which will offer themselves for your deliberation is exceeding great; and when it is considered that the effect of the measures you may adopt will reach our latest posterity, you will excuse us for giving you our sentiments, and pointing out some particulars, proper for that plan of conduct we wish you to observe.

We are free men; we have a right to be so, and to enjoy all the privileges and immunities of our fellow subjects in England, and while we retain a just sense of that freedom, and those rights and privileges necessary for its safety and security, we shall never give up the right of taxation. Let it suffice to say, once for all, we will never be taxed but by our own representatives; this is the great badge of freedom, and British America hath been hitherto distinguished by it; and when we see the British parliament trampling upon that right, and acting with determined

resolution to destroy it, we would wish to see the united wisdom and fortitude of America collected for its defence.

The sphere of life in which we move hath not afforded us lights sufficient to determine with certainty concerning those things from which the troubles at Boston originated. Whether the people there were warranted by justice when they destroyed the tea we know not; but this we know, that the parliament, by their proceedings, have made us and all North-America parties in the present dispute, and deeply interested in the event of it; inasmuch, that if our sister colony of Massachusetts Bay is enslaved, we cannot long remain free.

Our minds are filled with anxiety when we view the friendly regards of our parent state turned into enmity, and those powers of government, formerly exerted for our aid and protection, formed into dangerous efforts for our destruction. We read our intended doom in the Boston port bill, in that for altering the mode of trial in criminal cases, and finally in the bill for altering the form of government in the Massachusetts Bay. These several acts are replete with injustice and oppression, and strongly expressive of the future policy of Britain towards all her colonies; if a full and uncontrolled operation is given to this detestable system, in its earlier stages, it will probably be fixed upon us forever.

Let it, therefore, be your great object to obtain a speedy repeal of those acts, and for this purpose we recommend the adoption of such measures as may produce the hearty union of all our countrymen and sister colonies. UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL. To attain this wished for union, we declare our readiness to sacrifice any lesser interest arising from a soil, climate, situation, or productions, peculiar to us.

We judge it conducive to the interests of America that a general congress of deputies from all the colonies be held, in order to form a plan for guarding the claims of the colonies, and their constitutional rights, from future encroachment, and to the speedy relief of our suffering brethren at Boston. For the present, we think it proper to form a general association against the purchase of all articles of goods imported from Great Britain, except goods, such as salt, saltpetre, powder, lead, utensils, and implements for husbandry and manufactures, which cannot be had in America; books, paper, and the like necessities, and not to purchase any goods or merchandise that shall be imported from Great Britain after a certain day that may be agreed on for that purpose by the said general meeting of deputies at Williamsburg, except the articles aforesaid, or such as shall be allowed to be imported by the said meeting, and that we will encourage the manufactures of America by every means in our power. A regard to justice hinders us at this time from withholding our exports; nothing but the direct necessity shall induce us to adopt that proceeding, which we shall strive to avoid as long as possible.

The African trade for slaves we consider as most dangerous to virtue and the welfare of this country; we therefore most earnestly wish to see it totally discouraged.

A steady loyalty to the kings of England has ever distinguished our country; the present state of things here, as well as the many instances of it to be found in our history, leave no room to doubt it. God grant we may never see the time when that loyalty shall be found incompatible with the rights of free men. Our most ardent desire is that we, and our latest posterity, may continue to live under the genuine, unaltered constitution of England, and be subjects, in the true spirit of that constitution, to his majesty, and his illustrious house; and may the wretches who affirm that we desire the contrary feel the punishment due to falsehood and villainy.

While prudence and moderation shall guide your councils, we trust, gentlemen, that firmness, resolution, and zeal, will animate you in the glorious struggle. The arm of power, which is now stretched forth against us, is indeed formidable; but we do not despair. Our cause is good; and if it is served with constancy and fidelity, it cannot fail of success. We promise you our best support, and we will heartily join in such measures as a majority of our countrymen shall adopt for securing the public liberty.

Resolved, that the above address be transmitted to the printers to be published in the gazettes. WILLIAM POLLARD, Clerk.

At a meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of the county of Stafford the following ADDRESS was agreed to be presented.

To JOHN ALEXANDER and CHARLES CARTER, esquires.

GENTLEMEN, YOU are chosen to carry the sentiment of the freeholders and inhabitants of this county to a meeting of the agents from every county in the colony, to be held in Williamsburg on the 1st day of August; permit us on the occasion to recommend to you a conduct, discreet, spirited, animated, yet prudent.

You will declare as unanimously determined to preserve inviolate every privilege and immunity transmitted by our ancestors; that we reject with a disdain becoming the descendants of Englishmen, every mode of taxation, but by our representatives; that we are united in our prayers and wishes for a speedy reparation of that barbarous and formerly justified between Great Britain and her colonies. But, alas! we can but deem the prospect distant while parliament continues her attempts to enslave us. While the port of Boston, in our sister colony of the Massachusetts Bay, is now actually blocked up with an armed force, for having, with a becoming fortitude and resolution, withstood the seizure of a most unconstitutional tax, can we behold this attempt upon Boston but as a prelude to what every other colony, as well as ourselves, are to expect? Do not the inhabitants of that city, the first sufferers in the cause of American liberty, demand every assistance from our united councils and resolutions? We approve, we willingly accede to the association of our late assembly after their dissolution. It must affect the East India company, whose concurrence with administration, in their attempts on our liberties, ought forever to render them odious and detestable to every American. But while we testify our approbation of these measures we declare, at the same time, that we conceive them in our opinion to be inadequate to our purpose, and totally insufficient to procure a removal of our complaints. They are not calculated to alarm the merchant trading to America, nor will they serve to rouse the manufacturers, from whose interests, joined to that of those worthy persons who are friends to our liberties, from principle, we are solely to expect redress. Let us make it their interest, on the present occasion, to serve us. This, we conceive, may be easily effected, by a general stoppage of all exports and imports to and from Great Britain and the West India islands, an occlusion of the courts of justice but in criminal cases, breaches of the peace, and matters of record. These measures we request you to recommend to the meeting, as well by your votes, as every other method in your power.

John Washington, Townshend Dale, Richard Fowler, W. G. Stuart, William Mountjoy, Traverie Daniel, John James, Samuel Selden, Yelverton Peyton, William Garrard, William Brent, Robert Smith, Thomas Mountjoy.

Resolved, that an exemption from parliamentary taxation is the clear and undoubted right of the American colonies; that this right hath been uniformly acknowledged and allowed by the king and parliament of Great Britain from the first settlement of America, and that an attempt to deprive them of this right is both contrary to the laws and constitution of England, and would reduce the Americans to a slavery the most deplorable and ignominious.

Resolved, that to surrender the inestimable and unquestioned right which the people of America have to be taxed by their representatives only would be a total departure from the dignity of human nature, and would argue such a baseness of soul, as must render them unworthy of the name of British subjects.

Resolved, that though the members of this meeting do most ardently wish to see restored the good old system of tenderness and protection on the part of the mother country, and love and respect on that of the colonies; they are, nevertheless, firmly and seriously resolved to do whatever shall be necessary for the support of the just and equitable claim of a distinct legislation in the colonies.

Resolved, that every encroachment made by British parliament on the rights of any one of his majesty's colonies or plantations in America ought to be looked upon as an infringement upon the just rights, and inherent privileges, of the whole.

Resolved that the only sure and effectual measure to preserve America, and disarm the band of oppression, will be to put an entire and immediate stop to all intercourse of trade with Great Britain and the West Indies, and also to the exportation of wheat, flour, provisions, and lumber, to any part of Europe.

Resolved, that the people of this colony ought not to have any communication in the way of trade, or otherwise, with any colony or island in North America, who refuse to unite with them in stopping all trade with Great Britain and the West Indies, as mentioned above.

Resolved, that it is the duty of this colony to contribute as far as their power extends to the relief of the inhabitants of Boston, who are now, by the hard hand of oppression, marked out as the victims of ministerial wrath for their spirited exertions in the great cause of American freedom, and that subscriptions be immediately set on foot for their relief, under the conduct of the committee.

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this meeting, that the courts of justice in this colony ought to decline trying any civil causes until the grievances of America are redressed.

Resolved, it is the unanimous opinion of this meeting, and is now earnestly recommended to the late representatives, that they will, when the session of the counties can be collected, appoint a meeting at the falls of James river, or some other convenient place, to fix upon a plan for carrying into execution the measures proposed by the people, and it is hoped that deputies from the merchants will attend.

Resolved, that a committee be of the following persons: John Alexander, Charles Carter, John Washington, Townshend

Dade, William Hoot, Robert Washington, Henry Fitzhugh, Thornton, Gerrard Hoot, Nathaniel Washington, Robert Smith, Fitzhugh, junior, Lawrence Washington, Lawrence Washington, William Fitzhugh, junior, Marmion, John Stuart, Alvin Moxley, Grant, reverend William Stuart, William Gibson Stuart, John Wainwright, Baldwin Dade, Thomas Bupbury, Thomas Bunbury, junior, H. H. Hoot, Chandler Fowke, Richard Fowke, Thomas Mailey, Robert Yates, Charles Mailey, Peter Hanborough, Seymour Hoot, Nehemiah Mailey, Segimund Mailey, Samuel Selden, Gentry Waugh, John Fitzhugh, Thomas Fitzhugh, Henry Fitzhugh, junior, William Garrard, William Mountjoy, Peter Daniel, Traverie Daniel, Thomas Mountjoy, William Mountjoy, junior, John Mountjoy, Allen Waller, John Waller, Yelverton Peyton, John Brown, reverend Clement Brooke, Eljah Thraikill, George Brent, William Brent, Robert Brent, John Moxley, John Brown, Baily Washington, John James, William Adair, Richard Hewitt, Elias Hoar, John Ralls, Thomas Ludwell Lee, Robert Knox, John Origg, John Withers, James Withers, John Murray.

Resolved, that ten of the committee, with the moderator, be sufficient for transacting business.

Resolved, that JOHN ALEXANDER and CHARLES CARTER, gentlemen, be chosen to attend the general meeting in Williamsburg, on the first day of August, to transact business for the inhabitants of Stafford county.

WILLIAM GARRARD, Clerk.

At a meeting of sundry inhabitants and freeholders of the county of Isle of Wight, at the courthouse, in the town of Smithfield, on Saturday the 23d of July, 1774, the reverend HENRY JOHN BURROWS being unanimously chosen moderator, the following RESOLVES were entered into.

RESOLVED, that we will ever bear true and faithful allegiance to his majesty George the third, king of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, whom we acknowledge to be true and lawful sovereign of the British empire in North America, and whose sacred person and rights we are at all times ready to defend with our lives and fortunes. But we should think ourselves unworthy of the protection of so good a king; were we, by a tame submission to arbitrary power, to surrender our constitutional rights and liberty into the hands of any of our fellow subjects; and therefore it is further resolved, that as it is an acknowledged and essential principle of the British constitution that there can be no taxation without representation, and as the inhabitants of the American colonies neither are or can be represented in the parliament of Great Britain, any attempt of the said parliament to impose a tax on the said colonies is a flagrant violation of the most valuable privileges we claim, as free born subjects of a British king.

Resolved, that a late act of the British parliament for stopping the commerce of the town of Boston, with a professed intention to enforce obedience to another oppressive act of the said parliament, imposing a duty on tea imported into America, is, in our opinion, unconstitutional, tyrannical, and unjust, and threatens destruction to the British constitution in America.

Resolved, therefore, that we consider the invasion of the town of Boston by a British fleet and army as an attack on the liberty of all North America, and that we will cordially concur with our American fellow subjects in supporting our brethren in the province of Massachusetts Bay, and alleviating the distresses in which their opposition to despotic power has involved them.

Resolved, that we will not use tea, or suffer it to be used, in our respective families, as long as it is subject to a duty imposed by a British parliament, for the purpose of raising a revenue from America, and that we will not purchase any East India commodity whatever (drugs and medicines excepted) until the grievances of America be radically redressed.

Resolved, that we will, to the utmost of our power, discountenance by our advice and example all kinds of luxury and extravagance, and promote useful manufactures among ourselves.

Resolved, that we will heartily accede to all such further measures for the preservation of American liberty which shall be adopted by the deputies of the several counties in Virginia, when convened at Williamsburg, on the first day of next month.

Resolved, that we will have no commercial intercourse (except in the payment of our just debts) with any person or persons who shall not accede to such an association as shall be formed by the deputies of the several counties in this colony on the first day of next month.

Resolved, that RICHARD HARDY, JOHN SEABROOK WILLY, and JOHN DAY, be requested to represent us in the said general congress.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be inserted in the Virginia gazette. FRANCIS YOUNG, Clerk.

At a general and full meeting of the inhabitants of the county of Gloucester, at the courthouse of the said county, after due notice, on Thursday the 14th of July, 1774, JAMES HUBBARD, esquire, judge of the said county, being unanimously chosen moderator, they came to the following resolves:

RESOLVED, that we will ever maintain and defend his majesty's right and title to the crown of Great Britain, and his dominions in America, to whose royal person we profess the firmest attachment.

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this meeting, that taxation and representation are inseparable, and that as we are not, and from the nature of things cannot, be represented in British parliament, every attempt of that body to impose internal taxes on America is arbitrary, unconstitutional, and oppressive.

Resolved, that the act for blocking up the harbour of Boston, and other purposes therein mentioned, is cruel and unjust, and a convincing proof of the fixed intention of parliament to deprive America of her constitutional rights and liberties.

Resolved, that the cause of Boston is the common cause of all America, and that we will firmly unite with the other counties in this colony, and the sister colonies on this continent, in every measure that may be thought necessary on this alarming occasion.

Resolved, that we do most heartily concur with our late representatives in their resolve of the total disuse of tea, and do farther resolve against the use of any East India commodity whatsoever, except saltpetre.

Resolved, that we will not import, or purchase when imported, any merchandise or commodities from Great Britain, and that at a short day, hereafter to be fixed, we will stop all exports to Great Britain, until there is a total repeal of the Boston port act, all the several acts imposing taxes on America, for the purpose of raising a revenue, and those other acts made particularly against our brethren of the Massachusetts Bay, on account of their noble opposition to the late revenue act.

Resolved, that should our sister colonies of Maryland and North Carolina determine not to export their tobacco to Great Britain, we will be far from availing ourselves of their partial prohibition, by continuing to export ours.

Resolved, that we will submit to no resolutions that may be entered into, either by the deputies of the several counties in this colony at Williamsburg, or by the general congress of the colonies on this continent.

Resolved, that we will not deal with any person or persons in this county who will not sign this association, and strictly and literally conform to every distinct article thereof, nor with any other person or persons who will not sign, and strictly conform, to the particular resolves of their respective counties, but will forever despise and detest them, as enemies to American liberty.

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this meeting, that immediately upon the non-exportation plan taking place, either the gentlemen of the law, nor any other person, ought to bring any suit for the recovery of any debt, or prosecute farther any suit already brought, during the continuance of these resolutions, it being utterly inconsistent with such scheme for any man to be compelled to pay without the means wherewith he may pay.

Resolved, that we do most cordially approve of the intended meeting of the late burgesses, on the 1st of August next, at Williamsburg, and do desire Thomas Weiting and Lewis Burwell, esquires, our late worthy representatives, to consult with the deputies of the several counties of this colony, and to adopt such measures as are agreeable to the foregoing resolutions, barely engaging, on our parts, to conform thereto, and to support the same to the utmost of our power.

Resolved, that the clerk of this meeting transmit to the printers of both gazettes copies of the above resolves, with the request of the county to insert them in their papers. JASPER CLAYTON, Clerk.

At a general meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of the county of Caroline, at the courthouse, on Thursday the 14th of July, 1774, assembled for the purpose of deliberating and giving their sentiments upon the present state of affairs in America, and what ought to be done at this most alarming crisis, the following points were agitated and agreed to as the opinion of this county.

THAT the design of our meeting may not be misinterpreted, we think it proper to declare, what would otherwise be unnecessary, that we will preserve all due obedience and fidelity to the royal person and government of his sacred majesty king George the third, and that we will, at all times, when called on for that purpose, maintain and defend, at the expense of our lives and fortunes, his Majesty's right and title to the crown of Great Britain, and his dominions in America.

That a firm union and mutual intercourse, and reciprocation of interests and affections, between Great Britain and her colonies, is desirable and beneficial to both, and that wherever shall go at us to divide the union, by attempting to deprive the citizens of their just rights and one hand, or to effect the independence of the other, ought to be considered as a common enemy to the whole community.

RESOLVED, that the people of this county and town are from  
attached from principle and education to his present majesty king Geo

W I L L I A M S B U R G, J U L Y 28.

Resolved, mem. con. that it is the opinion of this meeting that it would be proper for every county in the colony, without delay, to fix two deputies, chosen by the people, or by the committees chosen by them in each county, to hold, in conjunction with deputies for the city and county, a convention for the purpose and duty to be appointed in order to elect a proper number of delegates to represent the colony.

F O R   S A L E,

**A**TRACT of LAND in *Sparghennia* county, 6 miles above *Fredricksburg*, containing about 700 acres, with a dwellinghouse, &c. the property of the late Doctor *Skinnerland*. This LAND will be sold altogether, or in lots; and the terms may be known by applying to the subscriber, in *Fredricksburg*.

JAMES HOLLOWAY.

**TO BE RENTED,**  
From year to year, or for a term of years, and entered upon the first day  
September next.

**A** CONVENIENT TENEMENT in the town of *Petersburg* at present in the possession of *Mr. Andrew Jephser*, whereon is a commodious storehouse, with a large counting room, and lodging room under the same roof, lumber houses of different sizes and for different purposes, stables, chairhouse, and a garden well palisad. Any useful repairs may be made by the tenant, and the expence deducted out of the rent. The terms, which are extremely low, may be known by applying to **BOLLING STARK.**

KING WILLIAM, July 10, 1774.  
**THE SALE** of the deceased, colonel James Quarles's NEGROES that were advertised to be at *Aslet's* warehouse on the 13th instant, is, by consent of parties, deferred until the 10th of August next, at which time they will most certainly be sold agreeable to the former advertisement.  
3 GOODRICH CRUMP.

**JAMES SCRAIG,**  
AT THE GOLDEN BALL,  
WILLIAMSBURG.

**BEOS** leave to inform the public that he has just got an eminent hand in the WATCH AND CLOCK MAKING BUSINESS, who served a regular apprenticeship to the same in Great Britain, and will be obliged to those who favour him with their commands. He makes and repairs REPEATING, HORIZONTAL, and STOP WATCHES, in the neatest and best manner. JEWELLERY, GOLD, and SILVER WORK, as usual, made at the above shop, for READY MONEY only.

To be SOLD, at Hanover courthouse, on Thursday the 4th of August next, being court day.

**FIFTEEN** likely Virginia born SLAVES, belonging to the estate of doctor John Walker, deceased. Credit will be given till the 25th of December next, the purchasers giving bond, with approved security, to THOMAS SIMPSON, Administrator.

Those concerned are desired to take notice that I have fully empowered Mr. George Lumford to transact the business of the above estate. The distressed situation of the estate puts it out of my power to grant any indulgence to its debtors; and as I intend to close my administration as soon as possible, I therefore request the favour of those who have any claims against the said estate to bring them in, either to Mr. Lumford or myself, properly attested, at farthest, by the 1st of October next.

T. S.

GREEN SPRING, July 13, 1774.  
**HEREBY** forewarn all persons not to purchase FRUIT or VEGETABLES, or any thing else, from any of the negroes belonging to the estate of Mr. William Lee, without a note from me, or any of the overseers who act for the said estate.  
GASTIN FAUNTLEROY.

**IF** one SARAH FERGUSON, who came indentured from England about six years ago, and served her time with Mr. Charles Lewis, deceased, on Rappahannock, will apply to the printer of this paper, she will hear of something much to her advantage.

**AN** from the plantation of the subscriber, near the Great Falls of Potomack, on the Maryland side, in Frederick county, about the 27th of June, a very likely mulatto slave named ELIAS, near 5 feet 10 inches high, and about 20 years old; had on, when he went away, a brown broadcloth coat, a light coloured broadcloth jacket, canabrig shirt, short breeches of the same, a new felt hat, and shoes and stockings. His head, from the crown to the forehead, is remarkably long, and is much scarred about the mouth, proceeding from his having had a scald head when he was a boy. He has also a scratch on his upper lip, which may be perceived by taking a near view of it. Whoever delivers him to me shall receive a reward of THIRTY SHILLINGS, if taken 30 miles from home, and in proportion to that distance.

THOMAS OFFUTT.

**TAKEN** up, in Charlotte, a well made black horse, about 4 feet 6 inches high, about 16 or 17 years old, branded on the near buttock W, and has on a bell of 3s. value. Posted, and appraised to 3l. 10s.  
PETER RAWLINS.

**TAKEN** up, in Chippew, a middle sized bay mare, shod before, her hind feet white, and branded on the near buttock L. E. Posted, and appraised to 3l. 10s.  
JOHN GRIGSBY.

PORTSMOUTH, July 5, 1774.

**A** PURSE of 100 guineas to be run for by any horse, mare, or gelding, over the two mile course at this place, the best two heats in three, on Tuesday the 30th of September, carrying weight for age, agreeable to the articles of the said purse, which are to be seen in the hands of Mr. Richard Nigh, merchant there, with whom all horses starting for the said purse are to be entered, the day before the race at farthest. The money to be paid to the winner immediately after the race. It is also proposed to have two more races, one on the Wednesday following, for 50l. the other on Thursday, for 30l. which will be advertised particularly, as soon as the subscriptions are full.

**TO BE SOLD,**

**THE** noted and well accustomed TAVERN, at present occupied by the subscriber, lying in James City county, about 15 miles from Williamsburg, on the main road leading to New Kent courthouse and Ruffin's ferry, with 500 acres of LAND in good order for cropping, and 6 fields under good fence. The terms of payment will be made easy by the subscriber.  
THOMAS DONCASTLE.

**R**UN away, from Neabeo furnace, the 16th of March, a light coloured mulatto man named BILLY, or WILL, the property of the honourable John Tayloe, esquire. When I tell the public that he is the same boy who for many years used to wait on me, in my travels through this and the neighbouring province, and by his pertness, or rather impudence, was well known to all my acquaintances, there is the less occasion for a particular description of him. However, as he is now grown to the size of a man, and has not attended me for some time past, I think it not amiss to say that he is a very likely young fellow, about 20 years old, 5 feet 9 inches high, stout and strong made, has a remarkable swing in his walk, but is much more so by a surprising knack he has of gaining the good graces of almost every body who will listen to his bewitching and deceitful tongue, which seldom or ever speaks the truth. He has a small scar on the right side of his forehead, and the little finger of his right hand is quite straight by a hurt he got when a child. Had on, when he went away, a blue farnought jacket, and an under one of green baize, cotton breeches, oznabrig shirt, mixed blue sale stockings, country made shoes, and yellow buckles. From his ingenuity, he is capable of doing almost any sort of business, and for some years past, has been chiefly employed as a founder, a stone mason, and a miller, as occasion required; one of which trades, I imagine, he will, in the character of a free man, profess. I have some reason to suspect his travelling towards James river, under the pretence of being sent by me on business. Whoever apprehends the said fellow, and brings him to me, or to his master, the honourable John Tayloe, at Mountairy, or secure him so as to be had again, shall have treble what the law allows, and all reasonable charges paid.

THOMAS LAWSON.

**FOR SALE,**

**NINE** hundred and forty acres of valuable land, lying on both sides of Contrary River, in Louisa, with three plantations thereon, two of which has sufficient houses for overseers and negroes; the other is improved with all necessary buildings, and orchards of all kinds, fit for the reception of a gentleman, the houses being finished in the best manner. This tract is well timbered and watered, lies within 32 miles of Fredericksburg, and 43 of Page's warehouse; there are at least 400 acres of low grounds, of the best soil, 300 of which are now to cut. The three plantations are under good fences, and in good order to work 12 or 15 hands. Robert Fleming, John Massey, and John Lain, are now in possession of the plantations, who will shew the land to any person inclinable to purchase, and Major Thomas Johnson will agree with them for the price. The above tract is esteemed the most valuable in Louisa for growing corn, wheat, or tobacco, and situated in the best range for stock of any below the great mountains. (tf 1\*)

**FOR SALE,**

**A** BOUT twelve thousand acres of exceeding rich TOBACCO LAND, in Amherst county, whereon are several plantations and improvements sufficient to work forty or fifty hands. There is on this land for sale a very valuable GRIST MILL, lately built, with a stone dam and a pair of good COLOGNE MILL-STONES, which mill has for two years past got upwards of 100 barrels of toll corn, and is situated on a never failing stream. The land will be shewn by William Womack, who lives at one of the plantations, and the prices of the land made known by him. One or two years credit will be allowed, interest being paid for the second year, and also for the first, if the money is not paid agreeable to contract. The land is to be laid off and surveyed by Colonel William Cabell, at the expence of the purchaser. Deeds will be made, upon bond and approved security being given, either to Call, William Cabell, or the subscriber. Six per cent. discount will be allowed for ready money, or good merchants notes. If any person would chuse to exchange lands in the lower part of the country, on or near some navigable river, that are good, it is more than probable we should agree.

CARTER BRAXTON.

**KING HEROD**

**STANDS** at Rosegill, and will cover mares at FOUR POUNDS the season. Those who send mares must send the money, otherwise they shall not be left. The valuable qualities, and the pedigree, of this horse, are sufficiently notorious. RALPH WORMELEY, junior.

To be SOLD, at public auction, at Westmoreland courthouse, on Tuesday the 17th day of September, being Westmoreland court day.

**TWENTY** very likely VIRGINIA born SLAVES. Credit will be allowed until the 10th of November following, on giving bond and good security. The bonds to bear interest from the date, if not punctually discharged. tdf RICHARD PARKER.

YORK town, June 9, 1773.

**THE** subscribers being very solicitous to comply with the will of their testator, the late Honourable William Nelson, desire that all persons who were indebted to him will endeavour to make as speedy payments as possible. Those who have accounts open on his books, and who cannot immediately discharge the balances, are desired to give their bonds. This request is the more necessary, as most of the legacies bequeathed by the testator are to be paid in sterling money, and he has directed that his younger sons fortunes shall be placed out at interest upon undoubted securities, so soon as it can be done. Those who have any demands are desired to make them immediately known.

THOMAS NELSON, HUGH NELSON,  
THOMAS NELSON, jun. RO. C. NICHOLAS.

**WANTED** for the lighthouse directors eight second-hand ANCHORS, nearly a thousand weight each. Any person having such for sale are desired to make their terms known to the subscriber in Norfolk. t. f. BASSETT MOSELEY.

**TO BE SOLD,**

**A** TRACT of LAND in Berkley and Frederick counties, containing 12,076 acres; it lies 7 miles on each side of Shenando river, the quantity on the east side, being only a slip of low ground, is inconsiderable; the quality of the land is remarkably good, and the conveniences attending it great. There are two plentiful streams of water running through marshes three miles in length, some of which are already reclaimed meadows, and the rest, at a very small expence, might soon be reduced to the like state. On each side of the streams mills might be erected and furnaces, the land affording stone, lime, iron, and lead ore. On one of the streams I have already erected a complete merchant mill, with a pair of the best French burrs for grinding of wheat, and a pair of common stones for grinding of Indian corn; besides this, there is near the dwelling house a tub mill, and on the other stream there is a valuable saw mill. There are five settled and improved plantations; on one of them is a good stone house, 2 stories high, with 2 rooms on a floor, a kitchen, dairy, and all other convenient out-houses; on another plantation, where Michael Pike lived, there is a good stone house; and at the other plantations there are overseers houses, negro quarters, barns, stables, tobacco houses, &c. The above tract shall be either partitioned off in lots of 1000 or 500 acres, or sold bodily to one purchaser. Belonging to this estate there are 112 negroes to be disposed of, together with all the stocks of cattle, equal to any in the colony, horses, mares, colts, hogs, &c. likewise all the necessary implements for the planter or farmer. Any person or persons inclinable to purchase are desired to make their proposals to me at Rosegill, on Rappahannock river, or to leave them with the overseer, who lives at the house plantation, and will shew the land. In November I shall be on the premises, and may then be personally treated with. Part of this land, and some of the negroes, belong to my eldest son, who leaves to me the disposition thereof, and will confirm any engagement I enter into on his part.

RALPH WORMELEY.

**TO BE RENTED,**

**BELVOIR,**

**THE** beautiful seat of the honourable George William Fairfax, esquire, lying upon Potomack river, in Fairfax county, about 14 miles below Alexandria. The mansion house is of brick, two story high, with four convenient rooms and a large passage upon the lower floor, five rooms and a passage on the second, and a servants hall and cellars below; convenient offices, stables, and coach house, adjoining, as also a large and well furnished garden, stored with great variety of valuable fruits, in good order. Appertaining to the tract on which these improvements are, and which contains near 2000 acres (surrounded, in a manner, by navigable water) are several valuable fisheries, and a good deal of cleared land in different parts, which may be let altogether, or separately, as shall be found most convenient. The terms may be known of Colonel Washington, who lives near the premises, or of me, in Berkeley county.

FRANCIS WILLIS, junior.

To be SOLD, pursuant to an act of assembly, on Monday the 1st of August next, being Prince William court day.

**THE** glebe lands of Dettingen parish, in the said county, adjoining the lands of the present incumbent the reverend James Scott, situate on Quantico Run, about 9 miles from Dumfries, and containing about 400 acres. The soil is good for wheat or tobacco, and there may be got a considerable quantity on the same.

HENRY LEE, } churchwardens.  
LEWIS RENO, }

**FOR SALE,**

**FIVE** hundred acres of land, lying on Deep Creek, in Louisa, about 45 miles of Richmond town, and is exceeding good land, well watered by Deep Creek, and a large branch thereof, which runs through the middle of the land, and affords a large quantity of rich meadow ground. Any person inclinable to purchase may see the land, and know the terms, by applying to the subscriber, living near it. t f GEORGE MERIWETHER.

NORFOLK, April 21, 1774.

**NOTICE** is hereby given, that a number of vessels will be wanted this summer to bring about 6000 tons of stone from Mr. Brooke's quarry, on Rappahannock, and land the same on Cape Henry, for the lighthouse. Any person inclinable to engage in such work are desired to treat with Matthew Shripp, Paul Loyall, and Thomas Newton, junior, esquires. The directors of the lighthouse will also be glad to purchase one or two flat bottomed vessels from 80 to 120 tons burthen.

BASSETT MOSELEY.

**FOR SALE,**

**A** TRACT of land, on Charles river, York county, containing about 600 acres, part of which is marsh, that may be drained with very little expence. The situation of this place is very convenient for a family, as it lies upon a river that abounds with oysters and fine fish, particularly sheepsheads; it is within 200 yards of a mill, and 2 miles of the church. My reason for selling it is, my having bought a tract of land more convenient to me. Whoever inclines to purchase may know the terms by applying to the subscriber, in York town.

THOMAS NELSON, junior.

**FOR SALE,**

And to be entered upon at CHRISTMAS next, A VERY valuable tract of LAND in King William county, on Pamunkey river, adjoining the land of the late Mr. John Smith, of Hanover county, deceased, containing 800 acres, more or less, the soil is very rich, and exceedingly well adapted for wheat, corn, or tobacco, particularly the first and second, being low grounds; and there is a considerable quantity of high grounds. It has plenty of good pine and oak timber upon it, convenient houses, and is in good order for cropping, is about two miles from Hanover town, and very convenient to church and two mills. Any person inclinable to purchase may be shewn the land by applying to Mr. Christopher Taliaferro, or Mr. William Jones, who resides near the same, and the terms may be also known by applying to these gentlemen, or to the subscriber.

THOMAS JONES.

To be SOLD, together or in parcels, THAT fertile and well timbered tract of LAND, lying in Princess Anne county, known by the name of GIBBS'S WOODS, whereon are several settlements, and whereof Jeremiah Tinker, esquire, grandson of the late governor Gibbs now stands seized, under the deed of gift of his mother, the daughter and heiress of the said governor Gibbs. Persons inclining to purchase may be informed of the terms by applying to Mr. James Parker, merchant in Norfolk, or to Edward Foy, in Williamsburg, who will give an undoubted title. t f

To be SOLD, and entered upon immediately, A TRACT of LAND containing 1300 acres, more or less, on Pamunkey river, in Gloucester county. It is needless to be particular about it as it is the same I advertised last year and then gave a full account of it, since then I sold it to John Attway Clarke, of Maryland, but as he refuses to take it, necessity obliges me once more to offer it to the public. Any person inclinable to purchase may know the terms by applying to me in Middlesex. I want part of the money at the meeting of the merchants, and for the remainder I will give reasonable credit. t f AUGUSTINE SMITH.

**FOR SALE, AND VERY CHEAP,**

**A** PLANTATION in good order for cropping, none of the land having been cleared above six years, with all necessary houses, quite new, together with 1500 acres of exceeding rich land, the soil of which is so good that it will bring large tobacco for five or six years without dung. I have made on this plantation above three thousand pounds of tobacco per share. The place is very healthy, and has a fine range for stock. This land lies in the lower end of Buckingham county, near to Appomattox river, on each side of Great Ducker's and Mayo creeks. Tobacco has been carried above this land near to Petersburg by water, and last month, in the dry weather, two canoe loads of wheat were carried near to Petersburg, and the canoes brought back; they were loaded but a little below this land. I make no doubt but Appomattox river will be soon cleared, and then the expence of sending wheat, tobacco, &c. will be trifling. Any person inclinable to purchase will see, by the produce of the land, that it is exceeding rich. I really do not know any better high land in the colony. This tract of land is well timbered, and has excellent water on it. I do not know a better place for a merchant mill than is on Ducker's creek. People are going much on raising wheat in these parts, and a good mill would be very advantageous to the owner. Also another tract of land of 826 acres, in Albemarle county, I believe about ten miles from the courthouse, joining Mr. James Harris and the quarters of Mr. John Winston. On this land is a small plantation, a good apple orchard, &c. The land is good, and my price so low, that I am convinced any person who viewed either of the above tracts of land would not hesitate to give the price I shall ask. Neither of these tracts are under any incumbrance whatsoever. A reasonable time of payment will be allowed.

ANTHONY WINSTON.